

## Art Lesson Plan

<http://inkpenpattern.blogspot.com/2014/11/art-lesson-plan-angel-of-darkness.html>

# Angel(a) of Darkness MERKEL as a God Mother of Ukrainian Neo-Fascism:

## *NeoPopRealist Caricature & Dark Humor*

NeoPopRealism ink & pen pattern drawing - "*Angel(a) of Darkness MERKEL as a God Mother of Ukrainian Neo-Fascism*"

**GRADES:** 9-12, adults, adaptable to 6-8

**Developed by NeoPopRealism Press** [www.neopoprealism.org](http://www.neopoprealism.org)

**TIME:** Two 45-minute class periods

### CONNECTIONS:

Visual Arts, Neopoprealism art style, NeoPopRealism 10 canons for happier life, Fascism and Neo-Fascism, history and current political events in Ukraine, peace and war, "What the NeoPopRealism philosophy with its 10 canons for happier life stand for," (see below).

**Key terms:** NeoPopRealism & Fascism, liberty & discrimination, peace & war, NeoPopRealism 10 canons for happier life & fascist's regime of cruelty and barbarism.

### Summary:

Political caricature provide an important record of the times, reflecting the values, conflicts and important issues. Analyzing political caricatures allows students to develop the factual knowledge and interpretive skills. Students should be familiar with the political event in Ukraine (see Art Lesson Plan "[Say "NO!" to Nazism](http://neowhimsies.blogspot.com/2014/07/say-no-to-nazism-gr-9-12-adapt-3-5-6-8.html)" - <http://neowhimsies.blogspot.com/2014/07/say-no-to-nazism-gr-9-12-adapt-3-5-6-8.html>)), related to the caricature. Students will master the analysis of current event, they will be able to approach similar tasks with historical caricatures and drawings.

### Learning Objectives

Students will:

- Analyze a caricature "*Angel(a) of Darkness MERKEL as a God Mother of Ukrainian Neo-Fascism*" visual and language clues.- Determine the meaning of contemporary political caricature.

# Angel(a) of Darkness MERKEL as a God Mother of Ukrainian Neo-Fascism

## THEIR THOUGHTS:

THIS BABY DOESN'T WANT BLANKETS, IT WANTS WEAPONS AND 'TOTAL WAR'. JUST SAY SO, MY LOVELY. YOU ARE MY ONLY HOPE...

I WANT TO OWN THIS PLANET. RUSSIA, YOU ARE ON MY WAY, AND I WILL DESTROY YOU, B\*\*\*\*, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER...

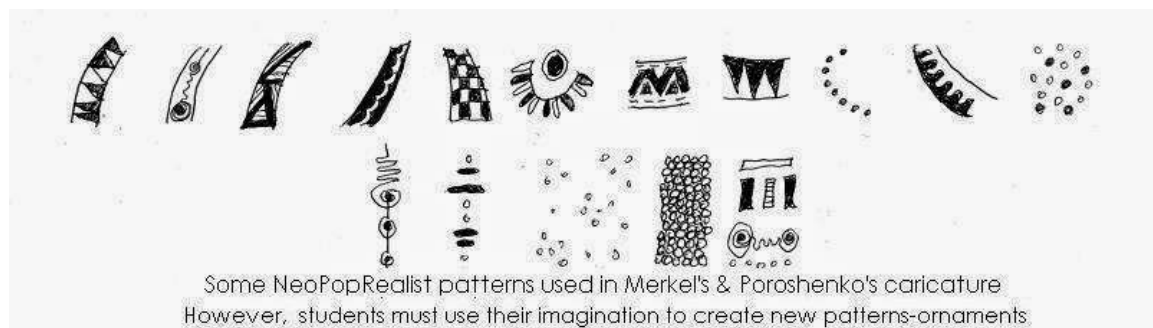
THIS GERMAN GUY WITH TITS CAN REALLY HELP ME TO KILL A BUNCH OF RUSSIANS, BECAUSE UKRAINIANS WERE HELPING GERMAN NAZIS IN WORLD WAR II. OLD LOVE NEVER DIES...



- Examine the NeoPopRealism art style's concept and the ink and pen pattern drawings; learn about the NeoPopRealism 10 canons for happier life, created by Nadia Russ in 2004 (if students are not familiar with this yet) - see <http://neopoprealismblackwhiteink.blogspot.com/>. Mention that in 2014 NeoPopRealism celebrates its 25th anniversary and that 10 canons - 10th anniversary. Focus on the NeoPopRealist 10 canons for happier life (see the bottom of this page), discuss each of them with students.
- Discuss briefly the current situation in East Ukraine. You will find more about East Ukrainian conflict in Art Lesson Plan "[Say "NO!" to Nazism](http://neowhimsies.blogspot.com/2014/07/say-no-to-nazism-gr-9-12-adapt-3-5-6-8.html)" - <http://neowhimsies.blogspot.com/2014/07/say-no-to-nazism-gr-9-12-adapt-3-5-6-8.html>). Briefly discuss WWII and Nazism's defeat.
- Create a political caricature in the NeoPopRealist's drawing manner, based on a current event - International conflict that involves Ukraine, German Counselor Angela Merkel (European Union) and Russia.

## ENGAGE

1. As an introduction, display a caricature "*Angel(a) of Darkness MERKEL as a God Mother of Ukrainian Neo-Fascism*" (see above). Make sure that students are familiar with this particular political events in Ukraine. Explain students that political caricatures are prejudiced and biased because they represent the artist's point of view, as does an editorial. These caricatures are intended to be controversial and characterized in nature, their meaning is conveyed by visual and verbal clues.
2. Tell students that a caricaturist is an artist, writer, cynic, philosopher, punster, and a community conscience at the same time. Caricaturist tells not the jokes, he/she tells the truth, which is funnier. The caricaturist is a social critic, who educates, amuses, and infuriates. He/she is unconsciously a reporter and historian, who reveals how people live and what they think, how they dress and act, what their amusements and prejudices are, and what the issues are. Caricaturists leave records of their times.
3. Tell students that they will be analyzing political a caricature and then creating one of their own.



## BUILD KNOWLEDGE

1. Discuss the Vocabulary and talk about some of the elements present in the caricatures: symbolism, caption, proportional size of objects and people, personification. Help students identify the personalities in the caricature "*Angel(a) of Darkness MERKEL as a*

*God Mother of Ukrainian Neo-Fascism*" and ask them what issue or event they think the caricature is about. Ask the students how did they determine their answer.

### **APPLY**

Ask students to identify the elements, ask students to share their findings and drawings.

2. The following are suggestions for analyzing caricature:

- The caricature should be placed in a historical and geographical context.
- All personalities represented in a caricature should be identified.
- Caricature analysis should finish with a description of the overall message of the caricature.
- Students must learn to interpret the visual clues and symbols, sent out from the caricature; must learn how to interpret caricature and the text.
- Students need to focus on placement and size of people, objects, symbols, and writing.
- Teachers should get the class to brainstorm ideas and evoke responses. All answers should be accepted and interpretation must be open-ended.

3. Explain to the class the following project assignment: Students will research a current political event, related to a crisis in Ukraine and create a political caricature. Students should brainstorm issue using information they received from the offered websites (see **RESOURCES**). Ask students to identify other sources such as television, newspapers, magazines, etc. Have students use all resources to help them with research.

### **REFLECT**

1. One student will summarize the findings about the political caricature "*Angel(a) of Darkness MERKEL as a God Mother of Ukrainian Neo-Fascism*". The rest of the class should have an opportunity to weigh in about whether or not they agree with the analysis.

### **ASSESSMENT**

Students will be given an assignment to create their political caricature.

After the completion of the project, students will share their caricatures with the class, identify the key elements, and describe the issue.

In the completed caricature, is there visual evidence that the caricature is based on viewpoint about a current issue?

In the oral presentation, was the student able to articulate the issue and elements involved in his/her caricature?

### **Lesson Plan - Background and Historical Information:**

#### **About Caricature.**

A caricature is a rendered image showing the features of its subject in a simplified or exaggerated way. Caricatures can be insulting or complimentary and can serve a political purpose or be drawn solely for entertainment. Caricatures of politicians are commonly used in editorial cartoons, while caricatures of movie stars are often found in



entertainment magazines. The term is derived from the Italian *caricare*—to charge or load. An early definition occurs in the English doctor Thomas Browne's *Christian Morals*, published posthumously in 1716. Expose not thy self by four-footed manners unto monstrous draughts, and Caricatura representations. with the footnote: When Men's faces are drawn with resemblance to some other Animals, the Italians call it, to be drawn in Caricatura Thus, the word "caricature" essentially means a "loaded portrait". According to School of Visual Arts caricature instructor Sam Viviano, the term refers only to depictions of real-life people, and not to cartoon fabrications of fictional characters, which do not possess objective sets of physiognomic features to draw upon for reference, or to anthropomorphic depictions of inanimate objects such as automobiles or coffee mugs. Walt Disney, on the other hand, equated his animation to caricature, saying the hardest thing to do was find the caricature of an animal that worked best as a human-like character.

Some of the earliest caricatures are found in the works of Leonardo da Vinci, who actively sought people with deformities to use as models. The point was to offer an impression of the original which was more striking than a portrait. Caricature took a road to its first successes in the closed aristocratic circles of France and Italy, where such portraits could be passed about for mutual enjoyment. James Gillray's *The Plumb-pudding in danger* (1805), which caricatured Pitt and Napoleon, was voted the most famous of all UK political cartoons. While the first book on caricature drawing to be published in England was Mary Darly's *A Book of Caricaturas* (c. 1762), the first known North American caricatures were drawn in 1759 during the battle for Quebec. These caricatures were the work of Brig.-Gen. George Townshend whose caricatures of British General James Wolfe, depicted as "Deformed and crass and hideous" (Snell), were drawn to amuse fellow officers. Elsewhere, two great practitioners of the art of caricature in 18th-century Britain were Thomas Rowlandson (1756–1827) and James Gillray (1757–1815). Rowlandson was more of an artist and his work took its inspiration mostly from the public at large. Gillray was more concerned with the vicious visual satirisation of political life. They were, however, great friends and caroused together in the pubs of London.

In a lecture titled *The History and Art of Caricature*, the British caricaturist Ted Harrison said that the caricaturist can choose to either mock or wound the subject with an effective caricature. Drawing caricatures can simply be a form of entertainment and amusement – in which case gentle mockery is in order – or the art can be employed to make a serious social or political point. A caricaturist draws on the natural characteristics of the subject (the big ears, long nose, etc.); the acquired characteristics (stoop, scars, facial lines etc.); and the vanities (choice of hair style, spectacles, clothes, expressions, and mannerisms).



**About Nadia RUSS.** Nadia RUSS is a Ukrainian-born Russian painter/graphic artist living in the USA. In 1989, she created a style of visual arts NeoPopRealism. In 2014, NeoPopRealism celebrates its 25th anniversary! Instead of careful copying reality - wild life or human figure - Nadia RUSS creates her artwork using imagination. As Nadia RUSS experimented and developed her distinctive techniques, her

drawings became more symbolic. For her drawings she uses whitepaper and black ink pen. However, sometimes, she uses blue ink on white paper and gold/silver ink on black paper - <http://neopoprealismblackwhiteink.blogspot.com/>. In some mixed media artworks she even uses the nail polish and lipstick to make the bright accents.

***How did Nadia RUSS develop her unique and original style NeoPopRealism?*** RUSS had studied classical drawing and composition since she was a child, but as she studied she found herself drawn to produce less realistic, more imaginative artwork. In 1989, she created NeoPopRealism art style and ink pattern drawing concept: line creates sections; then, these section filled with different repetitive patterns, some section should be left blank. If artwork made on canvas using color paints and a brush, then, it would be a combination of sections filled with hot and cold color paint, partly with patterns. In 1990, RUSS exhibited her first ink/ pattern drawings in a group exhibition in Moscow's famous Manege. Later, she was exhibiting her artwork in art galleries. In 1996, she moved to the Freeport, Bahamas, where her artwork gained special brightness. In 2000, she came to the USA where she lives till present. Nadia Russ create a term "NeoPopRealism" January 4, 2003. Same year, she manifested her new style of visual arts NeoPopRealism internationally. In 2004, she created NeoPopRealism 10 canons for happier life. In 2006-2007, several US and European museums collected Nadia Russ' paintings and drawings and now, these artworks are in the permanent collections of these museums.



© Nadia Russ' Neopoprealist' artwork 2000 - 2001, NYC

**In 2014, NeoPopRealism is 25.** Check for some history: watch the Bahamas TV, ZNS Channel 13, featuring the Nadia Russ' NeoPopRealist Art Exhibition in 1997.

Watch it here: <http://youtu.be/WNpQ8R51yk0/>.

Watch video: Nadia Russ drawing "Faces":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-j8Paut5flg>

**Read what newspapers worldwide have written about Nadia Russ' Artwork (click and scroll down in the following website):**

<http://neopoprealismjournal.wikifoundry.com/page/NeoPopRealism>

**About WWII.** World War II was a global war that lasted from 1939 to 1945, though related conflicts began earlier. It involved the vast majority of the world's nations—including all of the great powers—eventually forming two opposing military alliances: the Allies and the Axis. It was the most widespread war in history, directly involved more than 100 million people, from more than 30 different countries. In a state of "total war",

the major participants threw their entire economic, industrial, and scientific capabilities behind the war effort, erasing the distinction between civilian and military resources. Marked by mass deaths of civilians, including the Holocaust, the Three Alls Policy, the strategic bombing of enemy industrial and/or population centers, and the first use of nuclear weapons in combat, it resulted in an estimated 50 million to 85 million fatalities. These made World War II the deadliest conflict in human history.

**About Adolf Hitler.** Hitler actively sought Lebensraum ("living space") for the German people. His aggressive foreign policy is considered to be the primary cause of the outbreak of World War II in Europe. He directed large-scale rearmament and on 1 September 1939

invaded Poland, resulting in British and French declarations of war on Germany. In June 1941, Hitler ordered an invasion of the Soviet Union. By the end of 1941 German forces and their European allies occupied most of Europe and North Africa. Failure to defeat the Soviets and the entry of the United States into the war forced Germany onto the defensive and it suffered a series of escalating defeats, partly because of Hitler's countless military blunders. In the final days of the war, during the Battle of Berlin in 1945, Hitler married his long-time lover, Eva Braun. On 30 April 1945, less than two days later, the two committed suicide to avoid capture by the Red Army, and their corpses were burned. Under Hitler's leadership and racially motivated ideology, the regime was responsible for the genocide of at least 5.5 million Jews, and millions of other victims whom he and his followers deemed racially inferior.

**About Angela Merkel.** Angela Dorothea Merkel (born in 1954) is a German politician and a former research scientist who has been the leader of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) since 2000 and the Chancellor of Germany since 2005. She is the first woman to hold either office. Merkel entered politics in the wake of the Revolutions of 1989, briefly serving as the deputy spokesperson for the first democratically elected East German Government in 1990. In 2007, Merkel was President of the European Council and chaired the G8, the second woman (after Margaret Thatcher) to do so. She played a central role in the negotiation of the Treaty of Lisbon and the Berlin Declaration. One of her priorities was also to strengthen transatlantic economic relations by signing the agreement for the Transatlantic Economic Council on 30 April 2007. Merkel is seen as playing a crucial role in managing the financial crisis at the European and international level, and has been referred to as "the decider." In domestic policy, health care reform and problems concerning future energy development have been major issues of her tenure. On 26 March 2014, she became the longest-serving incumbent head of government in the European Union. Angela Merkel showed her tremendous support to the new ultra-nationalistic government of Ukraine, after the previous Ukrainian government was overthrown. Supported by Merkel and EU, Poroshenko (new President of Ukraine) started hot war against the rebels (anti-fascists) of east Ukraine, who did not want to bent their knees and accept the fascist's regime. See article *"Germany's Merkel meets Ukraine's Poroshenko in Berlin, pledges support"*: <http://www.dw.de/germanys-merkel-meets-ukraines-poroshenko-in-berlin-pledges-support/a-17688074/>

**About Petro Poroshenko.** Petro Oleksiyovych Poroshenko (born in 1965) is the fifth and current President of Ukraine, in office since 2014. He served as the Minister of Foreign

Affairs from 2009 to 2010, and as the Minister of Trade and Economic Development in 2012. From 2007 until 2012, Poroshenko headed the Council of Ukraine's National Bank. During the Euromaidan protests, between November 2013 and February 2014, Poroshenko actively supported the protest of ultra-nationalists in Ukraine, including with financial support. This led to an upsurge of his popularity. During the 2014 Crimean crisis Poroshenko visited Simferopol, in Crimea, prior to its annexation by Russia, "We have to find a compromise," Poroshenko told a crowd gathered in front of the Crimean parliament, but his appeal was drowned by shouts of "Russia, Russia." The people of Crimea voted at their referendum to leave Ukraine and to be the part of Russia. In an interview with Lally Weymouth, Poroshenko said: "From the beginning, I was one of the organizers of the Maidan. My television Channel 5 played a tremendously important role". The BBC reported, "Mr Poroshenko owns 5 Kanal TV, the news channel in Ukraine, which showed clear pro-opposition sympathies during the months of political crisis in Kiev.

At the time of Poroshenko's Presidential inauguration, the armed anti-fascists-rebels had declared the separatist republics Donetsk People's Republic and Lugansk People's Republic and control a large part of Eastern Ukraine. Poroshenko said that he does not recognize the "fake referendums" organized by rebels (anti-fascists), who are striving for separation from the new ultra-nationalist Ukraine. Poroshenko sent Army forces to fight the east Ukrainians; Army was shelling the armed anti-fascists and civilians.

**Ukrainian Nazis.** Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union in Operation Barbarossa began on June 22, 1941, and by September the occupied territory was divided between two German administrative units, the General Government and the Reichskommissariat Ukraine. The military occupation of Ukraine by Nazi Germany, a large number of Ukrainians chose to cooperate with the Nazis. Reasons for this generally included resurgent Ukrainian nationalism and aspirations for independence, however these were coupled with rampant racism towards other ethnic groups (such as Tatars, Roma peoples and Poles) as well as a prevailing sentiment of antisemitism. However, the absence of Ukrainian autonomy under the Nazis, mistreatment by the occupiers, and the deportation of hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians as slave laborers, soon led to a rapid change in the attitude among the collaborators.

**See BBC's interviews with the Ukrainian nationalists (Feb 2014):**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5SBo0akeDMY>

**Read about Ukrainian Nazis in Workers.com (July 2014):**

<http://www.workers.org/articles/2014/07/11/dissecting-ukraines-democracy-poroshenko-neo-nazis/>

## **RESOURCES:**

1. Information on NeoPopRealism ink pen/ pattern drawing, its concept and Nadia Russ biography, who created this style in 1989:

<http://neopoprealismblackwhiteink.blogspot.com/>

2. Art by Nadia Russ:

- <http://www.nadiaruss.com>

- <http://www.neopoprealism.net>

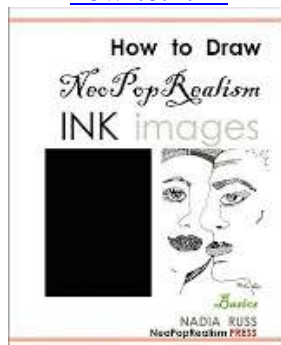


- <http://neopoprealism.org>

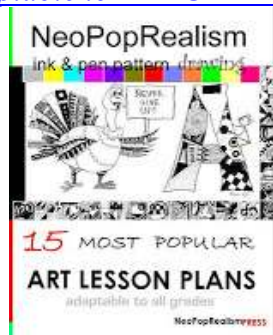
3. If you are an ART TEACHER teacher and is interested in teaching NeoPopRealism (not some kind of doodling that many uneducated in art people relate to NeoPopRealism, because both use patterns) you just MUST read at least one of *How to Draw NeoPopRealism* series' book and the autobiographical book by Nadia Russ "*DECA-DaNCE: & how swindlers, coxcombs & sexists failed America and how to break through & be happy*", ISBN: 978-0615655680. Other way, you won't able fully and interesting way present students the NeoPopRealist style's concept and NeoPopRealist 10 canons for happier life. Ask your library to obtain these books if you are not able to buy them. If librarian will tell you that they only purchase books from the *approved* distributor, refer them to INGRAM, the world libraries' supplier - <http://www.ingrambook.com/> that sells all Nadia Russ' books to libraries and other institutions worldwide.

A book "*How to Draw NeoPopRealism Ink Images: Basics*", ISBN: 978-0615515755 includes a few teaching projects (lesson plans) with step-by-step drawing instructions, more. Read the book' reviews written by art professionals:

<http://howtodrawneopoprealism.blogspot.com/2011/10/new-series-of-teaching-books-how-to.html>



A Book for art teachers: [\*NeoPopRealism Ink & Pen Pattern Drawing: 15 Most Popular ART LESSON PLANS Adaptable to ALL GRADES\*](#), ISBN: 978-0615754659



4. BBC's interviews with the Ukrainian Nazis (Feb 2014):  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5SBo0akeDMY>

**5. Donbass Chronicle of Genocide (August 20, 2014):**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wuEVJvPrpow>

**6. Article "Germany's Merkel meets Ukraine's Poroshenko in Berlin, pledges support":** <http://www.dw.de/germanys-merkel-meets-ukraines-poroshenko-in-berlin-pledges-support/a-17688074>

**7. Art Lesson Plan with more related resources "Say "NO!" to Nazism" -**  
<http://neowhimsies.blogspot.com/2014/07/say-no-to-nazism-gr-9-12-adapt-3-5-6-8.html>

**\*Fight bullying** in school with help of NeoPopRealism 10 canons for happier life - see in [www.nadiaruss.com/](http://www.nadiaruss.com/) or below:

**NeoPopRealism 10 canons for happier life:**

1. Be beautiful;
2. Be creative & productive; never stop studying & learning;
3. Be peace-loving, positive-minded;
4. Do not accept communist or any other totalitarianism's philosophy;
5. Be free-minded, do the best you can to move the world to peace and harmony;
6. Be family oriented, self-disciplined;
7. Be free spirited. Follow your dreams, if they are not destructive, but constructive;
8. Believe in god. God is one, it is harmony and striving for perfection;
9. Be supportive to those who need you, be generous;
10. Create your life as a great adventurous story.

**What the NeoPopRealism philosophy for happier life stands for.**

To bring the peace to the earth, it is time to unite all the peace-loving people, to stop the use and production of the heavy military equipment and weapons of mass destruction, such as war ships, war planes, artillery, nuclear bombs, etc., in every part of the world, without any exception, once and forever.

It has to be an international law, according to which any person of any country, in any government, responsible for use (or attempt to use) the heavy military equipment in any part of the world to kill people, would be imprisoned for the rest of life without possibility of amnesty, as the mass murderer. All sales of the heavy military equipment worldwide should be stopped, as well as production of new military heavy equipment, as part of this future law. To keep this planet eco-friendly and beautiful, and people happy, we have to say 'good bye' to some irresponsible peoples' bloody toys. 08.08.2014

**\*More** lesson plans for all grades: NeoPopRealism ink pen pattern drawing:

<http://inkpenpattern.blogspot.com/>  
<http://neopoprealismartlessonplans.blogspot.com/>  
<http://neowhimsies.blogspot.com/>  
<http://neopoprealismelementary.blogspot.com/>  
<http://kindergartenneopoprealism.blogspot.com/>

\* See the "PEACE" drawing instruction in WikiHow.com:

<http://www.wikihow.com/Draw-a-Neopoprealist-Illustration-%22PEACE%22>

\*In Czech: See the Mural "NeoPopRealism is 25!" drawing instruction in WikiHow.com:

<http://cs.wikihow.com/Jak-vytvo%C5%99it-Neopoprealismus-kresby>

\*In Russian: See the Mural "NeoPopRealism is 25!" drawing instruction in [WikiHow](#):

\*In Italian: See the Mural "NeoPopRealism is 25!" drawing instruction in WikiHow:  
<http://it.wikihow.com/Creare-un%27opera-d%27arte-NeoPopRealism>

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